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Borough of Lytham St. Annes.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1950

BY

A. DODD, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Together with the

Annual Report of

FRED HAWORTH, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

Public Offices,
Clifton Drive,
Lytham St. Annes.
August, 1951.



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Borough of Lytham St. Annes

HEALTH COMMITTEE

ALDERMAN LADY EDGE, J.P., Chairman.

THE MAYOR (Councillor Kenyon, J.P.), Vice-Chairman

Councillor Bamber.

Councillor Hoyle.

Councillor Butterfield.

Councillor Ingham, J.P.

Councillor Clarkson.

Councillor Maymon.

Councillor Mrs. Coope.

Councillor Pickles, C.C.

Councillor Faulkner.

Councillor Smith.

Councillor Heal.

Councillor Urwin.

Councillor Hinchcliffe.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health: G. G. WRAY, M.D., Ch.B, D.P.H., (to 31 5/50).
A. DODD, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H. (from 1/6/50).

Chief Sanitary Inspector: * FRED HAWORTH, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
M.R.I.P.H.H.

Sanitary Inspector: * J. K. YATES, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

* Also holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate
as a Meat and Foods Inspector.

Chief Clerk: R. ELLISON.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of the
Borough of Lytham St. Annes.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Sanitary Inspector for the year ending December 31st, 1950.

The Vital Statistics, considered as a whole, are those of a healthy district. The incidence of infectious diseases generally was low. Birth and Death rates reflect the effect of the relative preponderance of older persons who choose to live in this pleasant Borough. It is gratifying to note that the number of Tuberculosis Notifications and deaths declined.

The major portion of the Report relates to environmental health services since administration of most of the personal services had been transferred before 1950 to the Lancashire County Council under the Education Act of 1944 and the National Health Service Act of 1946.

There is a prevalent view that the provision of personal health services is very much the concern of local people and that administration should be under local control. It is apparent that where administration passes to a larger authority local voluntary effort and interest become all the more valuable. In this connection the continued voluntary work of Committees of local ladies of Lytham St. Annes in the care of mothers and young children particularly merits appreciation.

The importance of the interest of voluntary bodies and of the need for local control in the personal services for old people is evinced in Ministry of Health Circular No. 11 of January, 1950. which called attention to the need for further provision of services of a more personal kind for old people in their homes. Subsequent action taken by the Borough Council in collaboration with the Council of Social Service should, in due course, bring considerable benefit to old people of the district.

Details of an outbreak of sickness and diarrhoea are given in the body of the Report. Bye Laws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, were made during the year with the object of securing more cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling of foodstuffs.

I thank the Committee and the Clerk for courtesy and help, and I desire particularly to express gratitude to the Chief Sanitary Inspector and to all Members of the Public Health Staff for assistance and co-operation.

A. DODD,

Medical Officer of Health.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (exclusive of Foreshore), 5,802 acres.

Area of Foreshore, 5,891 acres.

Population, Census, 1931: 25,760.

Population (midsummer 1950, estimated by Registrar General): 30,170.

Physical Features and Character of the Area.

The Borough is a seaside resort, situated on the Fylde Coast, and extends from the Estuary of the River Ribble to the Southern boundary of Blackpool, a distance of six and three-quarter miles. The curving coast line faces successively South, South-West, and West. The district is very flat and the climate equable. The soil is of a sandy nature near the sea, but inland is chiefly clay.

Number of inhabited houses (census, 1931)	6,300
Number of inhabited houses (December, 1950)	8,907
Rateable Value	£362,327
Produce of Penny Rate	£1,466

Social Conditions, Including the Chief Occupations of the Inhabitants.

The population is more residential than industrial. The industries include Slipper and Boot manufacturers, a shipbuilding and engineering works, and several laundries. None of these has any special influence on public health.

VITAL STATISTICS

Home population (Registrar General's estimate), mid-1950: 30,170

Live Births	{		Total	M.	F.
		Legitimate	345	164	181
		Illegitimate	15	11	4
		Total	360	175	185

Birth-rates per 1,000 estimated home population mid-1950:—

Crude

11.9

Adjusted

12.8

	Total	M.	F.
Stillbirths	10	5	5

Rate per 1,00 total (live and still) births

27

	Total	M.	F.
Deaths	522	221	301

Death rate per 1,000 estimate home population, mid-1950:—

Crude

17.3

Adjusted

12.3

Maternal mortality:—

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	1
Mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	2.70

Death rate of infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	31
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	32
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil.

Neo-natal mortality:—

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	10
Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	28

Deaths from:—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	(6)	Rate	0.20
Other Tuberculosis Disease	(1)	Rate	0.03
Scarlet Fever	(Nil.)	Rate	0.00
Diphtheria	(Nil.)	Rate	0.00
Measles	(Nil.)	Rate	0.00
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	(Nil.)	Rate	0.00
Cancer	(91)	Rate	3.01

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BOROUGH OF LYTHAM ST. ANNES—1950

Causes of Death		Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	2	6
2	Tuberculosis, other	1	—	1
3	Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria	—	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	1	—	1
8	Measles	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	2	2
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	10	13
11	„ „ lung, bronchus	6	2	8
12	„ „ breast	—	12	12
13	„ „ uterus	—	8	8
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	25	25	50
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1	1
16	Diabetes	2	1	3
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	24	50	74
18	Coronary disease, angina	45	30	75
19	Hypertension with heart disease	4	8	12
20	Other heart disease	37	69	106
21	Other circulatory disease	7	12	19
22	Influenza	—	1	1
23	Pneumonia	3	6	9
24	Bronchitis	12	6	18
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—	—
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	1	5
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	2	3
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	9	3	12
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1	1
31	Congenital malformations	1	—	1
32	Other defined and ill defined diseases	27	39	66
33	Mother vehicle accidents	1	3	4
34	All other accidents	3	6	9
35	Suicide	—	1	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
All Causes ... Total		221	301	522

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

1. POPULATION.

The population of the Borough at the middle of 1950 is estimated by the Registrar-General at 30,170; 60 more than in 1949 and 4,410 more than at the last census (1931).

2. BIRTHS.

According to the Registrar-General 360 live births—175 males and 185 females—occurred in the Borough during the year. This is 47 more than in the previous year, and gives a birth-rate of 11.9 per 1,000, which is 3.9 below the rate for England and Wales, and 4.8 below that for the 148 smaller towns.

Corrected birth rate.

1950 adjusted birth-rate (comparability factor—1.07)—12.8 per thousand

Illegitimate births.

There has been an increase in the number of illegitimate births—15, of which 11 were males and 4 females, as compared with 10 in 1949. This represents 4.16 per cent. of the total live births, and an illegitimate birth-rate of 0.49 per 1,000 of the population. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 3.05 per cent. and 0.33 per thousand.

Still births.

There has been a slight decrease in the number of still births—10 (5 males and 5 females), as compared with 12 during the previous year. This represents 2.7 per cent. of the total births, and a still birth-rate of 0.33 of the population. The corresponding figures for 1949 were 3.7 and 0.39.

3. DEATHS.

There has been an increase in the number of deaths during the year; 522 as compared with 475 in 1949. The un-corrected death-rate is 17.3; this is 1.5 above that for the previous year; 5.7 above that for England and Wales, and 5.7 above that for the 148 smaller towns.

Corrected death-rate.

1950 adjusted death-rate (comparability factor—0.71)—12.3 per thousand.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. WATER SUPPLY.

Water is supplied by the Fylde Water Board; the supply has been satisfactory in quality and ample in quantity. Practically all houses in the Borough receive their supply directly from the mains, but some of the larger houses, hotels, etc., are provided with storage cisterns.

All water is mechanically filtered; lime water is added to prevent any possibility of action on lead, and the water is afterwards chlorinated.

No samples are taken locally but the Water Board carry out monthly bacteriological examinations of the water. Of the 19 examinations of the raw water, there were no abnormal results. 5 examinations were made of the water going into supply, and none contained coli aerogenes in 100 ml. 3 Chemical analyses of the water were taken, and the results were satisfactory.

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There have been no alterations or extensions during the year.

3. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The only stream in the district is the Liggard Brook which flows into the Ribble Estuary, and is largely fed by ditches which drain the moss on the landward side of the town. Some of the latter are occasionally subject to pollution from the overflowing cesspools of neighbouring farms

HOUSING

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	35
(b)	Number of inspections and re-inspections made for the purpose	121
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	Nil.
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil.
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	12

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	10
--	----

3. Action under statutory powers during the year:—

(a)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil.
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a)	By owners	Nil.
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	Nil.
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a)	By owners	2
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	Nil.
(c)	Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	5

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made . . . Nil.
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were Determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit . . . Nil.

The general standard of housing is high. Quite a large proportion of the houses are owner-occupied. There are a few old cottages in the Lytham area which will be scheduled for demolition when the housing situation improves.

During the year 42 permanent houses were erected by the Corporation and 14 permanent houses by other bodies or persons; and at the end of the year work was in progress on 68 permanent houses. The erection of a further 92 houses was under contemplation.

In December, 1950, there were approximately 960 applicants for houses on the Corporation's lists.

Overcrowding.

There are a number of instances of overcrowding, where whole families are accommodated in one or two rooms, owing to the shortage of houses. This will be relieved as new accommodation is provided.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, DISEASE

(a) Notifiable diseases:—

1. SMALLPOX.

No cases were notified during the year.

2. SCARLET FEVER.

During the year 9 cases of scarlet fever—18 less than the number of the previous year—were notified. All the cases were mild and there were no deaths. 5 cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital; the others were satisfactorily isolated at home. The age and sex distribution is as follows:—

	1-2 years	3-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25 and over	Total
Male	0	0	1	2	0	1	4
Female	0	0	3	2	0	0	5
Total	0	0	4	4	0	1	9

3. DIPHTHERIA.

5 suspected cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year, but were later proved not to be Diphtheria.

1. ENTERIC or TYPHOID FEVER.

No cases were notified during the year.

5. PARATYPHOID FEVER.

No cases were notified during the year.

6. MEASLES

Measles was less prevalent than in the previous year—242 cases having been notified as compared with 302 in 1949. The majority of the number of cases occurred between October and December. There were no deaths. The age and sex distribution is as follows:—

	Under 1 year	1-2 years	3-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25 and over	Total
Male	1	12	38	71	13	1	1	137
Female	3	18	34	49	—	1	—	105
Total	4	30	72	120	13	2	1	242

7. WHOOPING COUGH.

16 cases were notified as compared with 22 in the previous year. There were no deaths. The age and sex distribution is given below:—

	Under 1 year	1-2 years	3-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25 and over	Total
Male	1	2	3	1	0	1	0	8
Female	0	2	4	1	0	0	1	8
Total	1	4	7	2	0	1	1	16

8. ACUTE PNEUMONIA (primary and influenzal).

9 cases were notified during the year. The age and sex distribution is as follows:—

	15-44 years	45-64 years	65 and over	Total
Male	1	2	3	6
Female	1	1	1	3
Total	2	3	4	9

9. PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

3 cases were notified during the year. There were no deaths.

10. MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION.

No cases were notified during the year.

11. ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS and POLIO ENCEPHALITIS.

6 suspected cases were notified during the year, of these 4 proved to be Poliomyelitis. 3 of the cases were mild, and 1 case of Polio-encephalitis proved fatal. The age and sex distribution is as follows:—

	3 4 years	25 and over	Total
Male 	2	2	4
Female 	—	—	—
Total 	2	2	4

12. ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS—Infective.

No cases were notified during the year

13. DYSENTERY.

No cases were notified during the year.

14. OPTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

No cases were notified during the year.

15. ERYSIPELAS.

3 cases were notified during the year. There were no deaths.

16. MALARIA.

No cases were notified during the year.

17. FOOD POISONING—Outbreak of Diarrhoea and Vomiting.

An outbreak of Diarrhoea and Vomiting in visitors to a large establishment occurred during the period 3rd to 15th September, 1950. All cases were mild, and recovered within 24 hours of onset. The total number of ascertained cases was 112, although it is suspected that many other still milder cases were not reported. No cases were admitted to hospital. Specimens of faeces, vomit and urine sent to the laboratories were all reported negative for Pathogenic Organisms excepting in the case of a girl aged 5, from which case Dysentery Bacilli Sonne were isolated. The symptoms of this girl, however, were not similar to those of other affected persons.

Also, a considerable number of samples of food stuffs were examined for food poisoning organisms, but these were not isolated from any food-stuff.

The number of cases was large but the establishment is a very busy one, serving 6,000 or more meals per day at the time, and 120 persons took some part in the handling of food.

The precise cause of the outbreak was not discovered but it may be significant that the number of cases of illness dropped very considerably after improvements had been effected in kitchen hygiene. The possibility is that the outbreak of illness was caused by a bacterial toxin or due to an unknown virus. A food handler with a septic finger may have caused some cases but it is thought unlikely to have been the cause of the outbreak.

18 TUBERCULOSIS.

There has been a decrease in the number of cases of tuberculosis notified—19 compared with 22 in 1949, and a slight decrease in the number of deaths. During the year 6 deaths were attributed to pulmonary tuberculosis, giving a death-rate of 0.20 per 1,000, which is 0.08 below the average rate for the previous five years, and 0.03 below the previous year.

The age and sex distribution of the new cases and of the deaths occurring during the year are given in the following table:—

Age periods Years	New cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15-	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
20-	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
55-	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
65 and over ...	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
Totals ...	9	8	1	1	4	2	1	—
	17		2		6		1	

(b) Non-notifiable diseases:—

1. INFLUENZA.

Influenza is not notifiable and information as to its prevalence is mainly obtained from the death returns. As only one death, a female, was attributed to this cause during the year, it cannot have been prevalent to any great extent.

2. CANCER.

There has been an increase in the number of deaths from cancer: 91 deaths (male and female) being registered as due to this disease, as compared with 76 in the previous year. The death-rate is 3.01 per 1,000 which is 0.38 above the rate for the previous five years.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the maternity and child welfare functions of the Local Authority were transferred to the Lancashire County Council on the 5th July, 1948.

Maternal Deaths.

One maternal death occurred during the year.

Infant Mortality.

During the year, 10 infants died within 4 weeks of their birth, giving an infant mortality of 28 per 1,000 live births. The majority of these infants were of premature birth.

SCHOOL HEALTH & MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE CLINICS

County Council Clinics, held in the Borough, at the time of preparation of this Report, as follows:—

ST. ANNES—Public Offices, Clifton Drive South.

Monday	p.m.	Ophthalmic Clinic.
Tuesday	a.m.	Dental Clinic.
	a.m.	Minor Ailments Clinic.
	p.m.	C.W.C.
	p.m.	Immunisation (4th Tues. in each month).
Thursday	p.m.	Vaccination (2nd Tues. in each month).
	a.m.	Minor Ailments Clinic.
	a.m.	Dental Clinic.
Friday	p.m.	Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic (as arranged)
	p.m.	Speech Therapy.

LYTHAM—Bath Street Clinic.

Wednesday	a.m.	Minor Ailments Clinic.
	a.m.	Immunisation (3rd Wed. in each month).
	a.m.	Vaccination (2nd Wed. in each month).
	p.m.	Child Welfare Centre.
Friday	a.m.	Speech Therapy.

ANSDELL.

Thursday	p.m.	Child Welfare Centre (1st and 3rd Thurs. in each month).
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INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The table below shows the number of cases of infectious disease notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to hospital, and deaths in hospital during the year 1950.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	Total cases at all ages	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED AGE PERIODS - YEARS										Total deaths	Hospital	
		0-4	1-3	5-10	15-25	45-65 and over	Age un-known	Total cases removed to hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to District					
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Scarlet Fever	9	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Diphtheria (including membranous croup) ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric or typhoid fever (excluding paratyphoid)...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles (excluding rubella)	242	4	30	72	120	13	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping cough	16	1	4	7	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute pneumonia (primary and influenzal)	9	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	4	-	-	6	-
Puerperal pyrexia	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	-
Meningococcal infection ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis—														
Paralytic	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
Non-Paralytic	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-
Acute encephalitis—														
Infective	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post-infectious	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Any other diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	286	5	34	81	126	17	6	7	4	5	1	18	1	1

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

Closet Accommodation.

Excrement disposal is almost entirely by water carriage and there are in the Borough approximately 12,551 fresh water closets and 31 waste water closets. At the end of the year, there were in use 16 privies and 52 pail closets, all belonging to houses where no sewer was available. The privies are emptied regularly by the Corporation; and the pail closets, which are attached to farmhouses, are emptied by the occupants.

Sanitary Inspections.

Four hundred and forty eight nuisances have been located, as under; and 436 of them have been remedied, the remaining 12 being in course of abatement at the end of the year:—

	Number.
Blocked drains	32
Blocked gullies	1
Dampness in ceilings	5
Dampness in walls	16
Insufficient water supply	8
Defective:—	
Bath and lavatory waste pipes	6
Downspouts	6
Dustbins	249
Eaves gutters	3
Floors	6
Roofs	8
Soil pipes	6
Walls	8
Water closets	2
Yard surfaces	5
Smoke nuisances	3
Insanitary:—	
Accumulations of manure	3
Dirty rooms	1
Verminous houses	10
Miscellaneous	34
Factories, including bakehouses:—	
Want of cleanliness	23
W.C.'s unsuitable or defective	15
W.C.'s insufficient	6
W.C.'s not separate for sexes	2

Summary of Visits and Inspections.

	Number.
Visits to nuisances (including re-inspections)	578
Visits to abattoirs	574
Visits to dairies	84

Visits to factories and bakehouses	334
Visits to infectious diseases	28
Visits to manure receptacles	19
Visits to offensive trade establishment	50
Visit to public conveniences	118
Visits to ice cream premises	37
Visits to shops	48
Visits of miscellaneous character	692
Drains tested	9
Smoke observations	77
Houses inspected (along with Building Inspector) prior to granting of Habitation Certificate	31

Number of notices served:

Informal: Written 135, Statutory, 4

Smoke Abatement.

The time limit for the emission of black smoke is 2 minutes in any given half hour. During 1950, 77 observations were made. In 3 instances the limit imposed by the Corporation was exceeded. An abatement notice was served on one firm.

Shops.

The majority of the shops in the Borough are combined with living accommodation and have through ventilation and adequate sanitary arrangements on the premises. In the case of those lock-up shops where it has not been possible to arrange for conveniences on the premises, provision has been made for such accommodation in the immediate vicinity. During the year, 48 visits have been made.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

PART I. OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	24	33	3	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	198	297	18	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	2	4	2	Nil
Total	224	334	23	Nil

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) Sanitary Conveniences	23	22	Nil	4	Nil
(S.7) Insufficient ...	6	6	Nil	1	Nil
Unsuitable or defective...	15	12	Nil	3	Nil
Not separate for sexes ...	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
Total	45	41	Nil	9	Nil

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

82 rooms were disinfected on account of infectious diseases, the method employed being the formalin lamp and formalin spray. This procedure is also adopted in cases of tuberculosis and non-notifiable diseases on request. 10 houses infested with bugs were also dealt with. These are sprayed with an insecticide incorporating D.D.T., and in each instance was found to be effective in eradicating the vermin.

Public Conveniences.

There are 21 public conveniences under the control of the Department (10 ladies, 11 gents). These are maintained in a satisfactorily clean condition, although, on occasions, are much abused.

Rodent Control.

The work of rodent repression was continued during the year with one operator. 136 infestations were dealt with and the total number of rats and mice estimated to have been killed was 3,437. Regular visits are made to the Corporation tips, food shops, etc.

The sewers were test-baited and found to be free from infestation.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, came into operation on the 31st March, 1950 and repealed the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries issued a pro-forma Annual Return which is required under the Act, and this is set out below. The figures given relate to the period 1st April to 31st December, 1950 (nine months).

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1919

Report for period 31st March to 31st December, 1950

1. PREVALENCE OF RATS AND MICE

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(vii)
		Number of properties in Local Authority's Area in which infestation was			Analysis of Column (iv) Number infested by		
	Total	Notified by Occupier	Other-wise discovered	Recorded Total of (ii) & (iii)	Rats *		Mice only
					Major	Minor	
Local Authority's Property	25	—	35	35	16	17	2
Dwelling House ...	7600	31	—	31	—	13	18
Business Premises ...	1210	30	2	32	6	5	21
Agricultural Property	45	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	8880	61	37	98	22	35	41

2. MEASURES OF CONTROL BY LOCAL AUTHORITY

TYPE OF PROPERTY	No. of properties inspected	No. of inspections made	Number of notices served under Section 4		No. of treatments † carried out				Block treatments of properties in different occupancies under Sect. 6 (1) or by informal arrangement		
			Treatments	Works	By arrangement with Occupier		Under Section 5 (1)		No. of Blocks	Surface	
					Rats*	Mice only	Rats*	Mice only		No. of separate occupancies	Associated Sewers No. of manholes treated
LOCAL AUTHORITY'S PROPERTY ...	22	134	—	—	33	2	—	—	—	—	—
DWELLING HOUSE	31	144	—	—	13	18	—	—	—	—	—
BUSINESS PREMISES ...	432	541	—	—	11	21	—	—	—	—	—
AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	485	819	—	—	57	41	—	—	—	—	—

* This heading includes properties infested with both rats and mice.

† Excluding treatments included under block treatments.

3. ADMINISTRATION

Brief particulars should be furnished of:—

- (i) proceedings taken under the Act, i.e. under sections 3(4), 4(4), 4(5), 5(2), 8(2), 9(2), and 22(4);

None.

- (ii) special circumstances to which any undue presence of rats and mice in the district may be attributed;

None.

Milk Supply.

23 licences for the sale of 'Tuberculin Tested' milk, one for bottling 'Accredited' milk and 5 for the sale of 'Pasteurised' milk, and 4 for the sale of 'Sterilised' milk were granted by the Council during the year.

3 samples of milk were submitted for the phosphatase and 4 for the methylene blue tests and all of these were satisfactory.

84 visits were made to dairies. Four samples of ice-cream were obtained and submitted for the methylene blue test, these proved satisfactory.

Registrations made during the year were:—

14 to sell ice-cream

Bye-Laws with respect to the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and the sale of food in the open air came into operation on the 19th June, 1950. Copies of these bye-laws were distributed to all food shops, etc.

Meat Supply.

All animals slaughtered for food in the Borough are killed at the Public Abattoirs, St. Annes. A Sanitary Inspector is present at the time of slaughtering and inspects all meat. All animals are stunned by a mechanically operated instrument prior to slaughter.

Carcases inspected and condemned:

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2565		1258	8726	632
Number inspected	2565		1258	8726	632
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS—					
Whole carcasses condemned	18		57	21	22
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	85		—	3	58
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	4° ₀		4·5° ₀	0·27° ₀	12·6° ₀
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY—					
Whole carcasses condemned	34		3	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	729		—	—	49
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	29·7° ₀		0·24° ₀	—	8·2° ₀
CYSTERICUS BOVIS—					
Number found affected ...	53		1	—	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with Cystericus Bovis ...	2·06° ₀		—	—	—

The total amount of meat condemned was 36 tons, 3 cwts. 2 qrs. 24 lbs.

Other Food.

Food shops are regularly inspected; and during 1950 the following were condemned:—

518 tins of meat, vegetables, milk, fruit, etc.;
4 cwts 3 qrs. 9 lbs. of fish;
1 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. of butter;
150 lbs. of poultry and turkey;
92 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of ham and bacon;
46 packets of cake mixture;
95 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. of cheese;
7 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. sausages.

Five samples of imported boiled mussels were obtained during the year for bacteriological examination, and were found to be satisfactory.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

By courtesy of the Lancashire County Council, the following particulars of the samples taken by the County Sampling Officer under the Food and Drugs Act in Lytham St. Annes during the year 1950 are given:—

A total of 139 samples was obtained and of these 70 were of milk and the 69 others comprised:—

3 tea	1 bread
1 sugar	1 bread, brown
1 oatmeal	4 aspirin tablets
3 mustard compound	2 camphorated oil
2 meat and gravy, canned	2 sauce
6 cheese	1 cherries, canned
5 margarine	2 blanc mange powder
5 olive oil	1 gooseberries, canned
3 glycerin	1 plain flour
2 table salt	1 ruby wine
1 cake and sponge pudding mixture	1 port wine
1 cake mixture	1 British sherry
1 cooking fat	2 cod liver oil
1 turkish delight (chocolate coated)	1 mince tarts
1 assorted mint sweets	2 lentils
1 bicarbonate soda	1 ground mixed spice
1 baking powder	1 ground ginger
3 vegetables, canned	1 Channel Islands milk
	2 mincemeat

All the above samples were certified by the County Analyst to be genuine, with the exception of the following:—

No. of Samples	Result of Analysis	Action taken
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 1.6 per cent. of extraneous water.	Same vendor - formal samples obtained.
1 informal milk	Deficient 17.6 per cent. solids-not-fat; freezing point indicated the presence of 15 per cent. of extraneous water.	
1 informal milk	Deficient 3.3 per cent. fat and 7.6 per cent. solids-not fat; freezing point indicated the presence of 9.8 per cent. of extraneous water.	

HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL

Year Ending 31st March, 1951.

Refuse Collection.

The collection of refuse is carried out by the Local Authority over the whole district. Four complete units are engaged and a weekly collection of refuse is now operative and only varies slightly on the incidence of Bank Holidays. During the summer months the refuse from a number of private hotels is collected twice weekly.

The total amount of refuse collected during the period 1st April, 1950 to 31st March, 1951 was 9,829 tons, an increase of 141 tons over the previous year.

The following table shows the amount collected during the past three years:—

	T.	C.
1948/49	9198	0
1949/50	9688	0
1950/51	9829	2

Refuse Disposal.

The disposal plant has continued to give complete satisfaction.

Salvage operations and mortar making resulted in the sum of £7,905. 9s. 11d. being received. This is made up as under:—

	£	s.	d.
Waste paper	2024	13	0
Bagging and carpets	12	11	3
Baled Scrap	743	6	6
Cinders	154	1	0
Dust	9	8	6
Clinkers	12	12	2
Scrap Iron	162	15	0
Textiles and Miscellaneous receipts	48	7	9
Mortar	1737	14	9
	<hr/>		
	£7,905	9	11
	<hr/>		

The following table shows the cost of removal and disposal of house refuse during the year ended 31st March, 1951:—

	Collection			Disposal			Total		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Gross expenditure	11233	7	2	8715	5	3	19948	12	5
Gross income	53	9	6	7919	17	4	7973	6	10
Net cost	11179	17	8	795	7	11	11975	5	7
Net cost per 1,000 population...	370	10	8	26	7	0	398	17	8
Net cost per ton	1	2	8.9	1	7.4		1	4	4.3
RATE POUNDAGE									
Net cost equivalent rate in the £			7.6			0.5			8.1
Percentage of above to rates in the £			3.6%			0.24%			3.84%



